

Washington City Council

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www.washingtoncity.org

Agenda Regular Meeting November 12, 2014

Attendance: Mayor Kenneth Neilson, Councilmen Garth Nisson, Thad Seegmiller, Kress Staheli, Ronald Truman, Jeff Turek, City Manager Roger Carter, City Attorney Jeff Starkey, Community Development Director Drew Ellerman, Public Works Director Mike Shaw, Police Chief Jim Keith, City Recorder Danice Bulloch, Audience: Jody Steurer, Riley Steurer

Meeting commenced at 6:06 P.M.

Invocation: Mayor Neilson

Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Turek

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilman Truman made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Nisson seconded the motion; which passed with the following roll call vote:

Councilman Nisson Aye
Councilman Seegmiller Aye
Councilman Staheli Aye
Councilman Truman Aye
Councilman Turek Aye

2. <u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>

Mayor Neilson thanked all those involved in the Veterans Day Celebration. The event was very successful.

3. <u>DECLARATION OF ABSTENTIONS & CONFLICTS</u>

None

4. <u>CONSENT AGENDA</u>

<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES:</u> Consideration to approve the minutes from the City Council Meetings of 10/07/14, 10/21/14 and 10/22/14.

BOARD AUDIT REPORT: Consideration to approve the Board Audit Report for October 2014

Councilman Seegmiller made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the removal of the minutes. Councilman Turek seconded the motion; which passed with the following roll call vote:

Councilman Nisson Aye
Councilman Seegmiller Aye
Councilman Staheli Aye
Councilman Truman Aye
Councilman Turek Aye

5. **ORDINANCES**

A. Consideration to approve Ordinance No. 2014-32 Amending the Net Metering Policy by revising the Application for Interconnection Review and the Net Metering Policy Agreement. Power Department Director Kelly Carlson

Power Director Kelly Carlson reviewed:

At this time I recommend we remove the rebate section from the Net Metering Policy. Today the cost of a solar system installation is substantially less than when the policy was originally adopted. Currently, the combined rebates between the Federal Government, State and City cover nearly 100% of the installation cost of a 3 kW system. Solar systems will continue to be installed without the need for the City incentive. We currently have spend in excess of \$100,000 promoting this program, and are the only municipal utility still providing a rebate. This money will be needed for additional resource expenses.

Councilman Staheli asked for a breakdown of costs for solar.

Power Director Carlson reviewed the prices for solar as well as retail prices for power.

City Manager Roger Carter stated he did a presentation at UAMPS, in which he polled the members. Only about ½ of the member offered any type of rebate. St. George City was one of the people who discontinued the solar rebates. UAMPS is trying to get some type of idea how many customers are currently using solar. There is some discussion of setting up power purchase agreements for solar. Those customers who are using solar, still require utilities when the sun is not shining, which leaves some stranded costs.

Councilman Seegmiller asked what Washington City is doing to prepare for additional solar customers in the future.

Power Director Carlson stated staff is looking at power purchase agreements for the future. However, at this time, he is only asking to take out the small portion of the policy, which address the offers on rebates for solar systems. He reviewed the exhibits to be removed within the Ordinance.

Councilman Nisson asked if the City could pay for the meter.

Power Director Carlson stated the meter cost could be added to the Ordinance.

Councilman Staheli stated he would prefer to review the Ordinance in a work session meeting in order to vet the changes more thoroughly.

Councilman Seegmiller stated there are a couple items within the Ordinance he also would like to change slightly, which he has previously reviewed with Council and Staff.

Council discussed the net metering policy and some of the misconceptions of the public.

Councilman Seegmiller stated he likes the idea of encouraging solar systems. He would support tabling the Ordinance in order to review it in a Work Session.

Councilman Turek clarified the expense is for promoting or for the rebate.

Power Director Carlson stated there had been only two solar customer sign up until the past two years, which means we have been impacted by nearly \$125,000 in rebates for the short period.

Councilman Turek stated he likes the idea of a rebate, but maybe not to the extent we are currently giving.

Power Director Carlson stated he would have this item placed on the next workshop agenda.

Councilman Seegmiller made a motion to table Ordinance No. 2014-32 Amending the Net Metering Policy by revising the Application for Interconnection Review and the Net Metering Policy Agreement until the December 9th Workshop Meeting. Councilman Nisson seconded the motion; which passed with the following roll call vote:

Councilman Nisson Aye
Councilman Seegmiller Aye
Councilman Staheli Aye
Councilman Truman Aye
Councilman Turek Aye

6. REPORT OF OFFICERS FROM ASSIGNED COMMITTEE

None

7. <u>CITY MANAGER REPORT</u>

City Manager Roger Carter stated the Green Springs Substation demand is going to be coming before Council in the next couple of months. The Eastern Regional Water Project will be coming before Council on November 25th for award of bid. The widening Washington Fields Road from 3090 South to 3650 South project is underway with acquiring right of way.

8. CLOSED SESSION

A. To discuss pending or potential litigation.

Councilman Seegmiller made a motion to move into Closed Session to discuss pending or potential litigation. Councilman Nisson second the motion; which passed with the following roll call vote:

Councilman Nisson Aye
Councilman Seegmiller Aye
Councilman Staheli Aye
Councilman Truman Aye
Councilman Turek Aye

Council moved into closed session at 6:50 P.M.

Council adjourned the Closed Session and returned to the Workshop Meeting at 7:30 P.M.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Turek made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Truman seconded the motion; which passed with the following roll call vote:

Councilman Nisson Aye
Councilman Seegmiller Aye
Councilman Staheli Aye
Councilman Truman Aye
Councilman Turek Aye

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Passed and approved this 25th day of November 2014.

Attest by:

Danice B. Bulloch, CMC

City Recorder

Washington City

kennem F. Nenson, Mayor

